

# High-pressure cylinder failure under fire scenario – investigation of the consequences

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# Introduction

Fire and  
Industrial Safety

Explosion  
Prevention and  
protection

Hydrogen safety  
research

 **REFRESH**

 **HYSACO**

 **CESAR**  
Centre of Excellence for Safety Research

Why?

Experimental test

Results

Future overlook...

Centre of Excellence for Safety Research

Conclusion

# Why is this important?





# Why is this important?

Still widely used in industry and households

In the case of fire present severe risks, including catastrophic failure

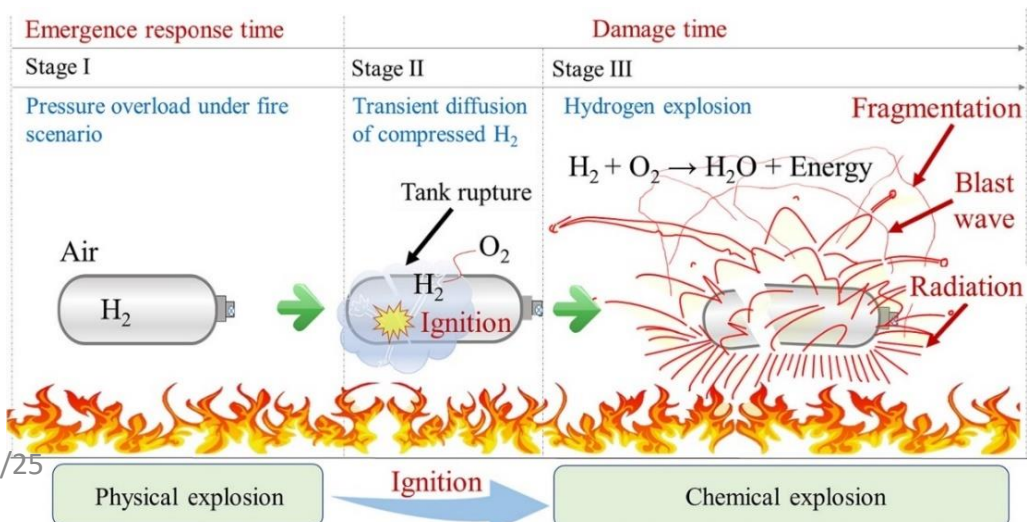
Hydrogen safety is increasingly crucial as adoption grows

Understanding high-pressure cylinder behavior (Hydrogen & Nitrogen) under fire conditions.

Assessing fragmentation and fireball formation.

Previous incidents involving cylinder failures.

Application in hydrogen-powered transportation and energy storage.





# Experimental study

Hydrogen  
pressure cylinder

- 50 litres
- 300 bar

Nitrogen  
pressure cylinder

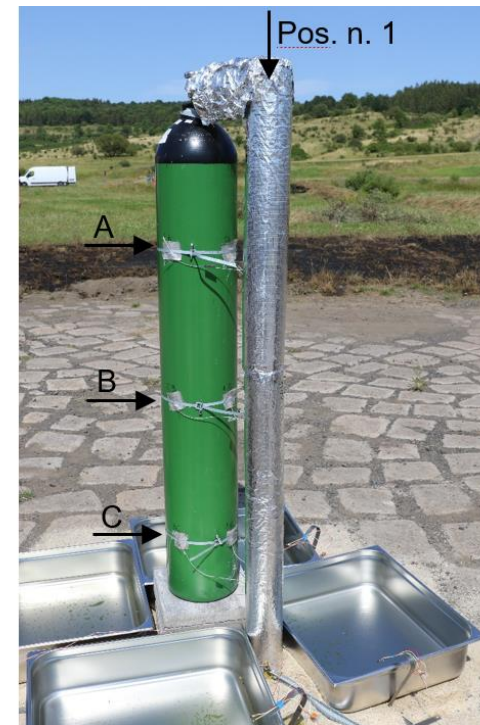
- 50 litres
- 300 bar

Fire

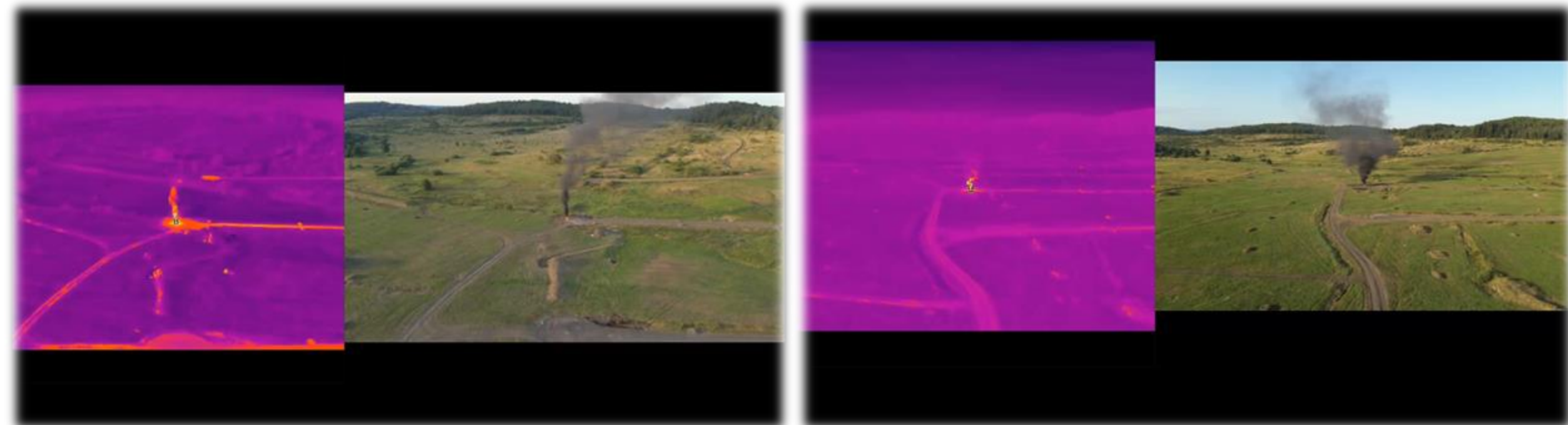
- 80 litre of diesel fuel
- 4 tubes
- Pyrotechnical ignition

Recording

- Shell's temperature
- Internal pressure
- Cameras, drones, thermovision ...

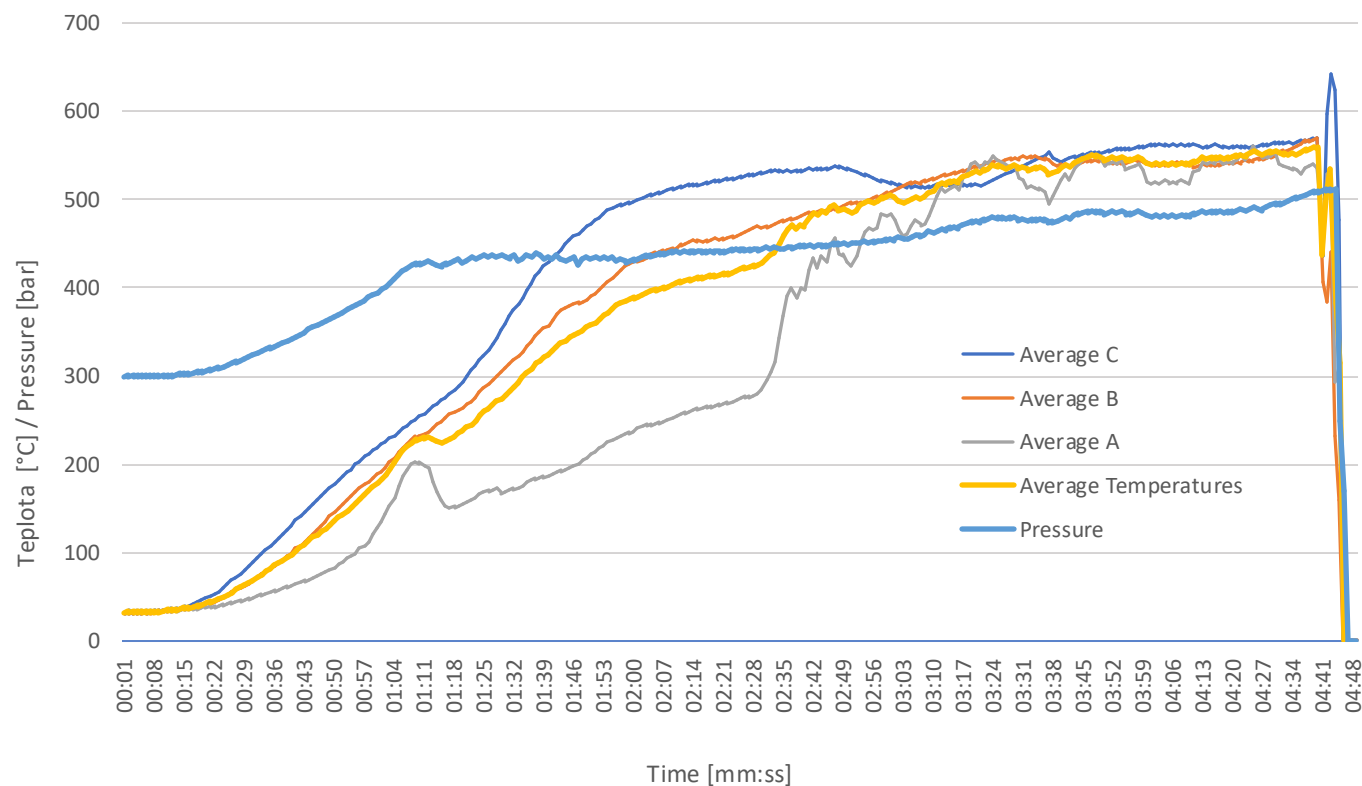


# Results





# Hydrogen – temperatures and pressure



33 ms

133 ms

500 ms

1533 ms





# Pressure cylinder fragmentation





# Safety and future





# Safety and future







## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SAFETY RESEARCH

### ERA Chair: Prof. Ernesto Salzano

Full Professor of Chemical Plant Design at the University of Bologna, Italy.  
Director of Studies for Chemical and Process Engineering

Strengthening research capacity - increasing research excellence of FSE

Connecting with European research - participation in international networks, projects, and other initiatives

**The multidisciplinary** team will include international experts covering explosion protection, fire safety, risk analysis and crisis management and other expertises.

Prof. Valeria **Di Sarli**

Dr. Rafal **Porowski** Dr. Sven **Eckart**

Dr. Stefan **Spitzer**

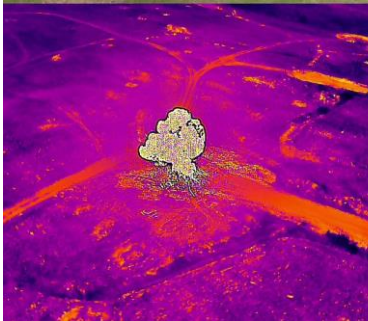
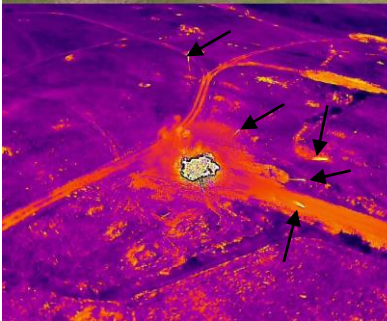
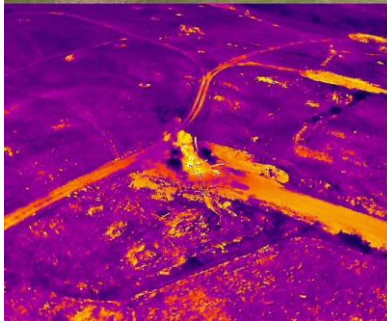
Dr. Enrico **Danzi**

**Young Researchers** - Postdocs and PhD students will play a key role, receiving mentorship and career development opportunities through the CESAR initiative

**Cooperation with a strong network** of partnerships within academia and industry worldwide.

**Project coordinator and VSB group leader – Dr. Vojtěch Jankůj**

# Conclusion



High-pressure cylinders pose a major explosion risk in fires.

Hydrogen cylinders result in extensive fragmentation and large fireballs.

Thermal imaging and high-speed cameras provide crucial insights.

Safety recommendations for industry and emergency responders.



# Thank you for your attention



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